

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 96-108

DECEMBER 23, 1997

MECHANIC FALLS WATER DEPARTMENT
Request for Extension of Service to
the Inhabitants of the Towns of
Poland and Oxford

ORDER AUTHORIZING
EXTENSION OF
SERVICE AREA

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and HUNT, Commissioners

SUMMARY OF ORDER

The Commission approves the Mechanic Falls Water Department's revised request to extend service into a portion of the Town of Poland.

BACKGROUND

The Mechanic Falls Water Department filed, on March 5, 1996, a request for authorization to furnish water service to the inhabitants of the Towns of Poland and Oxford. The Department's request was supported by resolves by the municipal officers of the Towns of Oxford and Poland approving and consenting to the provision of water service, by the Department, in their Towns.

Commission Staff completed a preliminary review of the Department's request in July 1996 and advised the Department that the Oxford Water District's boundaries encompass all of the Town of Oxford. Because the Department's request to extend its service area was very broad, Staff asked the Department to more precisely describe the areas within the Towns of Poland and Oxford that the Department would like to serve. The Department was also advised that it would need the consent of the Oxford Water District in order to serve within the District's service area.

The Department, by letter dated July 15, 1996, amended its request to include only a portion of the Town of Poland. Because the portion of Poland to be served was not adequately described, Staff met, on August 27, 1997, with representatives of the Mechanic Falls Water Department, the Auburn Water District, and the Town of Poland to develop a description of the portion of the Town of Poland that would be likely to be served by the Department. On September 10, 1997, the Department amended its request to serve that portion of the Town of Poland described in the Ordering paragraph. On December 9, 1997, Staff received notification from the Town of Poland that the proposed service area has been approved by the Town Selectmen.

We have reviewed the revised request of the Mechanic Falls Water Department for authorization to render service in a portion of the Town of Poland. We find that the proposed area represents that portion of the Town of Poland to which the Department can offer service without compromising water quality, service pressure, or available flows. We will approve the Department's revised request to serve a portion of the Town of Poland in compliance with all applicable Rules of this Commission, particularly Chapter 65 - Water Main Extension Rules.

Accordingly, We

O R D E R

That the Town of Mechanic Falls Water Department is authorized to furnish water service, in accordance with all applicable Commission Rules, in that portion of the Town of Poland westerly of a line described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of Worthley Brook and the Little Androscoggin River near Hackett Mills; thence southerly along the centerline of Worthley Brook to the shore of Worthley Pond; thence along the westerly shore of Worthley Pond to its most southerly point; thence due south to the Poland/New Gloucester Town line.

Dated at Augusta, Maine this 23rd day of December 1997.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch
Nugent
Hunt